Inside Wallops

National Aeronautics and Space Administration Goddard Space Flight Center Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Va.



Volume XX-06

Number 41

November 20, 2006

TacSat-2 Progressing to a December 11 Launch

Last week, Stages 1 & 2 of the Minotaur launch vehicle were taken to Pad 0B and placed on the launch mount. Roadblocks are in place on the Bypass and the Beach Roads to prevent unauthorized traffic from accessing Pad 0B and areas to the south of that point.

The TacSat-2 Spacecraft was mechanically mated to Stages 3 & 4 on November 13 to form the Upper Stack Assembly. Fairing installation on the Upper Stack Assembly has started in Building W-65 and is scheduled to be complete by Wednesday. The placement of the Upper Stack Assembly on Pad 0B is scheduled for November 28.

The TOGA Doppler Weather Radar has been installed in Building E-134. It will serve in addition to Spandar for ELV cloud launch criteria.

Communications and the 20' Mobile Telemetry system at Coquina, N.C., successfully flowed low-rate data and checked out voice circuits. The 20'

Mobile Telemetry system successfully received from the Boresight tower without interference. Mobile power successfully completed a power load test.

The T-1 link to Coquina is in process and is due to be installed this week.

Mobile Radar 11 flowed position data to Wallops; Communications and the Mobile Command System.

Telemetry, Communications and the Range Control Center set for data flow tests with Antigua, but the test was unsuccessful due to network issues with Antigua.

The plan is to solve it by accepting the network limitations from Antigua and converting the data when it arrives at Wallops. Radar 2, in its new location at Building V-100, has successfully tracked



Courtesy of Ron Walsh

Mobile Range at Coquina, N.C.

the Boresight and an aircraft to test the system.

Three video surveillance cameras have been installed and checked out. Three high speed camera branch stations have been installed and checked out, and two mobile domes have been positioned near Pad 0B.

The scheduled launch time remains 0700 ET on Monday, December 11.

Wallops Shorts.....

In the News

WESR Radio, Daily Times, "Region Can View Meteors at Va. NASA Base"

Air Force Times, "Satellite in Works to Beam Battlefield Pictures to Troops"

Washington Post, "Va. Commercial Space Industry Poised for Takeoff"

Space News, "AirLaunch to Learn Fate of QuickReach in December"

On the Road

Magdi Said, NASA Balloon Program Office, participated in a Teacher's Development Day for 5th grade teachers in the Norfolk School District. Hands on activities focused on volume estimation and

measurement of irregular objects, density calculations, buoyancy concept as well as an introduction to materials behavior and characterization tools. Thirty teachers attended the event held November 13 in Norview Middle School, Norfolk, Va.

Alice Rew, NASA Range and Mission Management Office; Debbie Parks, Jessica Thompson, and Ben Cervantes NASA GN&C and Mission Systems Engineering Branch, participated in a Career Day event at Broadwater Academy, Exmore, Va., on November 16.



Teachers from the Norfolk School District participate in a science activity.

A Message from the Center Director, Ed Weiler

"I am announcing a number of changes in the leadership of the Center to be effective November 27.

Goddard¹s Associate Center Director Krista Paquin has accepted a new position as Deputy Director, Office of Program and Institutional Integration (OPII), Executive Office of the Associate Administrator at NASA Headquarters.

Diane Williams, Director of Management Operations (Code 200) will be coming to Code 100 as the Associate Director and will serve in that capacity until her retirement. Prior to that time, we will initiate a search for a permanent successor

Tom Paprocki, the current deputy director of the Management Operations Directorate (Code 200), will assume the leadership of that Directorate.

Krista has done a superb job leading the institution through a tremendously difficult period of change and severe budget challenges. She will be a tremendous asset to OPII and to the agency in her new role at HQs.

We are also fortunate to have Diane and Tom, two experienced and exceptionally qualified managers, step into their new roles to provide continued stability and leadership to the institution.

Please join me in wishing Krista a warm and sincere thank you for her many years of hard work and dedicated service to Goddard, and welcome Diane and Tom to their new posts where they can expect our continued support."

Long Time Wallops Contractor Dies

Ray Gillett, an electrical engineer with EG&G, passed away November 16 at his home in Wallops Island after a lengthy battle with cancer.

Gillett provided support to NASA's Hydrospheric and Biospheric Sciences Laboratory for the OASIS platform, designing and installing the entire electrical system for the solar powered boat.

Gillett was formerly an employee of DynCorp for many years in the Aircraft Project Branch.

Happy Thanksgiving!



The Cafeteria, Exchange Store and the Rocket Club will be closed November 23 and 24 for Thanksgiving.

The Wallops Exchange and Morale Association Executive Board and it's employees wishes everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving!

New Items at the Exchange

Milk Chocolate Covered Pecans, Crunchy Praline Pecans, Pecan Halves and Cashews

Now available at the Exchange Store, Building E-2. Contact Karen Shannon at x2020 for more information.

How to Reach Middle School Students

November 27 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. E-2 Williamsburg Room

Dr. Adena Williams-Loston, Director of Education, will teach how to "Make 'The Connections' in the Classroom."

The course will feature practical advice on how to speak to middle school students and have them hear what you say and a guide for reaching middle school students.

The course will also answer these three questions:

What knowledge-concepts will students learn?

Which strategies will help students acquire and integrate that knowledge?

What strategies will help students practice, review and apply that knowledge?

NASA Headquarters Sends Thanks

From a memo dated November 6, to Dr. John Campbell, "Thank you and your staff for your hospitality while our division conducted an offsite planning retreat in Chincoteague. The opportunity to gain perspective on the unique abilities and challenges at Wallops Flight Facility proved to be a useful focus for ensuring that our programs are designed to optimize support for the mission. Hearing from people like you and Jay Pittman provided very tangible insight into what our priorities should be.

Ms. Bonnie Crawford deserves special recognition for her assistance during our visit. Ms. Crawford invested her time and (boundless) energy in making sure that my staff saw and learned things that would reinforce their understanding of WFF's critical role in the NASA mission. We credit much of the success of our Wallops visit to Ms. Crawford.

We are looking forward to future opportunities to visit Wallops....."

James Leatherwood Director, Environmental Management Division NASA Headquarters

Verizon Rep Visits

A representative from Verizon Wireless will be at Wallops on November 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Building E-2 Conference Room.

Come in to open up a new account, purchase an account for someone as a gift, upgrade an existing account or ask any questions you may have.

For more information contact Karen Thornes at x2040.

Thank you, Ladies!

A special thanks to the Cafeteria staff and the WEMA volunteers that served 570 delicious Thanksgiving dinners complete with all the trimmings for the annual holiday feast — 228 of them were take out dinners picked up in the Williamsburg Room.

Inside Wallops is an official publication of Goddard Space Flight Center and is published by the Wallops Office of Public Affairs, Extension 1584, in the interest of Wallops employees. Recent and past issues of Inside Wallops also may be found on the NASA Wallops Flight Facility homepage: www.wff.nasa.gov

Editor Asst. Editor Betty Flowers Rebecca Hudson